

again demand a resubmission of the prohibitory amendment to the vote of the electors of the commonwealth, believing that experience from year to year since its adoption has demonstrated that it was the work of folly and fanaticism—that it has not, in the slightest degree, lessened the evils of intemperance and has been the fruitful parent of fraud, bribery, perjury and official corruption, and in lieu thereof we favor a system of high license and local option and demand the repeal of the iniquitous laws passed for the purpose of carrying into practical effect the purpose and intent of said amendment.

Fifteenth—We oppose woman suffrage as tending to destroy the home and family, the true basis of political safety, and express the hope that the helpmeet and guardian of the family sanctuary may not be dragged from the modest purity of self-imposed seclusion to be thrown unwillingly into the unfeminine places of political strife.

Sixteenth—The disgraceful returning board proceedings of the last election, worthy of the palmiest days of carpetbag corruption, resulting as it did in the unlawful larceny of the lower house of the legislature, as also the subsequent disgraceful proceedings of both Populist and republican parties deserve the patriotic attention and condemnation of the people.

#### NOTES AND COMMENT.

Congressman Lisle of the Tenth Kentucky district, died in Washington, July 7.

Last Thursday the Union stock yards of Chicago reported total receipts of live hogs for the day only thirteen. The stock exchange for the same day reported prices off  $1\frac{1}{2}$  cents. If supply and demand regulates the price why didn't hogs double in market price instead of declining  $1\frac{1}{2}$  cents?

The public debt has increased over 50 million dollars in the past year. The aggregate of interest and non-interest bearing debt, \$1,016,897,816, an increase for the year over 50 million dollars. Economy along the line of democratic and republican reform has proved a failure inasmuch that they are compelled through bad financial management to mortgage the country in order to hold up the depleted treasury.

The Populist state convention of Michigan, held at Lansing, July 4, nominated Dr. A. W. Nichols for governor, and a full state ticket. Their platform favors per diem pensions, the taxation of railroads for municipal purposes, the municipal ownership of heat, light and power plants, a graduated tax on lands held for speculative purposes, the abolition of alien ownership of land, the principal of the initiative, referendum and imperative mandate, woman suffrage and the election of United States senators and judges by the people. A resolution was adopted demanding that the government prohibit the use of Pullman coaches until the pending strike is settled.

Sensors Kyle, Allen and Peffer have each introduced resolutions in the senate looking toward the settlement of the strike and the avoidance of future trouble of that nature. The Kyle resolution is: "That no warrant or other process, civil or criminal, shall be issued by the United States commissioner out of any circuit or district court of the United States against any person or persons for the alleged obstruction of any railroad train or trains, unless it shall appear that such person or persons have obstructed or hindered such train in such manner as to interfere with the safe and convenient transportation of the mails of the United States, and the detachment of Pullman or other parlor or sleeping coaches from any railroad train or trains shall not constitute any offense against the laws of the United States."

## MARTIAL GOVERNMENT.

(Continued from page 1.)

to climb on a train which was waiting. They did so and were brought back to the city, arriving about 4:30 o'clock. The battle took place over a wrecking train which had been sent out to remove the ruins from the track. About twenty men and one woman were wounded and killed.

After the shooting, a mob of 10,000 men and women chased the squad of militiamen into their train, which started up, and was followed for blocks by the frenzied rioters. Only the presence of the cars, to which the soldiers fled, saved them from death.

#### CLEVELAND ARRAIGNED.

CHICAGO, July 7.—The following letter was telegraphed to President Cleveland to-night by President Debs of the American Railway union and Master Workman Sovereign of the Knights of Labor: "To the Honorable Grover Cleveland, President of the United States, Washington:

"DEAR SIR—Through a long period of depression, enforced idleness, and low wages, resulting in widespread poverty and in many cases actual starvation, the working people have been patient, patriotic and law abiding; and not until the iron heel of the corporate tyranny was applied with the intention to subjugate the working people to the will of arrogant monopolies did they make an effort to stay the oppressors.

"The Pullman strike was not declared until the employees of the Pullman company were driven to the verge of starvation, their entreaties spurned with contempt, and their grievances denied a hearing. No refusal to handle Pullman cars was declared by any railway employee until all propositions looking toward arbitration, and conciliation were rejected by the Pullman company. Notwithstanding the facts set forth above were known to the public and the national authorities, you have seen fit, under the guise of protecting mails and federal property, to invoke the service of the United States army, whose very presence is used to coerce and intimidate peaceable working people into a humiliating obedience to the will of their oppressors.

"By your acts, insofar as you have supplanted civil and state authorities with the federal military power, the spirit of unrest and distrust has so far been augmented that a deep-seated conviction is fast becoming prevalent that this government is soon to be declared a military despotism.

"The transmission of the United States mails is not interrupted by the striking employees of any railway company, but by the railway companies themselves, who refused to haul the mails on trains to which no Pullman cars were attached. If it is a criminal interference with the United States mails for the employees of a railway company to detach from a mail train a Pullman palace car contrary to the will of the company, then it holds true that it is the same criminal interference whenever a Pullman palace car is detached from a mail train in accordance with the will as a railway company, while said mail train is in transit.

"The line of criminality in such case should not be drawn at the willingness or unwillingness of railroad employees, but at the act itself, and inasmuch as it has been the common practice of railway corporations to attach and detach from mail trains, the Pullman palace cars, at will, while said trains are in transit and carrying the mails of the United States, it would seem an act of discrimination against the employees of the railroad corporations to declare such acts unlawful

interference with the transmission of the mails when done by employees, with or without the consent of their employers.

"In view of these facts, we look upon the far fetched decision of Attorney General Olney, the sweeping un-American injunctions against railway employees, and the movements of the regular army, as employing the powers of the general government for the support and protection of the railway corporations in their determination to degrade and oppress their employees.

"The present railroad strike was precipitated by the uneasy desire of the railway corporations to destroy the organizations of their employees, and make the working people more subservient to the will of their employers, and as all students of government agree that free institutions depend for their perpetuity upon the freedom and prosperity of the common people, it would seem more in consonance with the spirit of democratic government if federal authority was exercised in defense of the rights of the toiling masses to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. But, on the contrary, there is not an instance on record where, in any conflict between corporations and the people, the strong arm of the military power has been employed to protect the working people and the industrial masses from the ravage and persecution of corporate greed, but the measure of character has been in the line of declaring the corporations always good and in the right, and the working people always bad and in the wrong.

"Now, sir, we pledge to you the power of our respective organizations, individually and collectively, for the maintenance of peace and good order and the preservation of life and property and will aid in the arrest and punishment of all violators of the civil and criminal laws of state or nation. In the present contest between labor and railway corporations we shall use every peaceable and honorable means at our command, consistent with the law and our constitutional rights, to secure for the working people just compensation for labor and respectable consideration in accordance with the inherent rights of all men and the spirit of republican government. In so doing we appeal to all the liberty-loving people of the nation to aid and support us in this most just and righteous cause."

#### GROWING WORSE.

CHICAGO, July 9.—There are 10,000 armed men guarding railroad property here and the city is practically under martial law, yet trains do not move because there are no men to handle them. The mob has been charged upon by the troops at different points, yet not one of the many persons wounded was a member of the A. R. U.

Nearly all the labor organizations have agreed to quit work on Wednesday unless the Pullman company agrees to arbitrate. This would make 150,000 additional strikers.

Address of Eugene V. Debs to the American Railway Union.

To the Railway Employees of America:

The struggle with the Pullman company has developed into a contest between the producing classes and the money power of the country. This is what Lincoln predicted at the close of the civil war, and it was this reflection that gave the great emancipator his gloomiest forebodings. We stand upon the ground that the workmen are entitled to a just proportion of the proceeds of their labor. This the Pullman company denied them. Reductions have been made from time to time until the employees earned

barely sufficient wages to live, not enough to prevent them from sinking deeper and deeper into Pullman's debt, thereby mortgaging their bodies and souls, as well as their children's, to that heartless corporation.

Up to this point the fight was between the American Railway union and the Pullman company. The American Railway union resolved that its members would refuse to handle Pullman cars and equipment. Then the railway corporations, through the General Managers' association, came to the rescue, and in a series of wheress declared to the world that they would go into partnership with Pullman, so to speak, and stand by him in his devilish work of starving his employees to death. The American Railway union accepted the gage of war, and thus the contest is now on between the railway corporations united solidly upon the one hand and the labor forces upon the other. Every railroad employee of the country should take his stand against the corporations in this fight, for if it should be lost corporations will have despotic sway and all employees will be reduced to a condition scarcely removed above chattel slavery; but the fight will not be lost. The great principle of American manhood and independence is involved. Corporate power, drunk with its own excesses, has presumed too far upon the forbearance of the American people, and, notwithstanding a subsidized press (to which there are many notable and noble exceptions), public sympathy is with the striking employees, who are merely contending for the right of their fellow toilers to receive living wages for their work.

I appeal to strikers everywhere to refrain from acts of violence. Let there be no interference with the affairs of the companies involved, and above all, let there be no act of depredation. A man who will destroy property or violate law is an enemy and not a friend to the cause of labor. The great public is with us, and we need only maintain a dignified, honest, straightforward policy to achieve victory. Let it be understood that this strike is not ordered by myself or any other individual; nor is the strike inaugurated anywhere except by consent and authority from a majority of the employees themselves.

Neither is this a fight simply of the American Railway union. The question of organization ought not to be raised, but every man who believes in organized railroad labor should take his stand on the side of labor and its battles for his rights and those of his fellowmen. I have faith in the great body of railway employees of the country, and am confident they will maintain an unbroken front in spite of any opposition that may be brought to bear against him. I am perfectly confident of success. We can not fail.

E. V. DEBS.

#### Our Sewing Machine.

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WANTED—A professional at Girls' Industrial school, Beloit, Kas. Address Superintendent of Girls' Industrial school

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